

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 93 14:36:00 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #794
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 29 Jun 93 Volume 93 : Issue 794

Today's Topics:

 "final" tube mods for Swan wanted
 20m hot on FD (was Re: Field Day: a bummer!)
 Another Datapoint
 Any opinions on Icom W21-AT, especially audio?
 Field Day '93
Field Day = Contest Day = ARRL Double-Crosses us Again! (2 msgs)
 Freq. coordination database software
 Good Band for CW QRP Operation (4 msgs)
 How do you view a .TAR file
 Old Hams never die, They just ... (2 msgs)
 Where to find beginner's rigs?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 29 Jun 93 05:57:24 GMT
From: techbook.com!techbook.com!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: "final" tube mods for Swan wanted
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

[Article crossposted from rec.radio.amateur.equipment]
[Author was Gene Welford]
[Posted on 29 Jun 1993 12:55:29 -0700]

A friend has an old Swan tranceiver which uses TV sweep tubes for finals.
He uses 6MJ6's to replace the original 6LQ6's.
He wonders if anyone has done a conversion to 6146's?

Anyone know anything about this?

Thanks,
Gene

--

Those who beat their swords into plowshares
are destined to plow for those who don't.
genew@techbook.COM

Please direct flames to: genew@ucant.gethere.frmhere

--

Those who beat their swords into plowshares
are destined to plow for those who don't.
genew@techbook.COM

Please direct flames to: genew@ucant.gethere.frmhere

Date: 29 Jun 1993 17:27:25 GMT

From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!
darwin.sura.net!news-feed-1.peachnet.edu!concert!samba.oit.unc.edu!
cheech@network.UCSD.EDU

Subject: 20m hot on FD (was Re: Field Day: a bummer!)

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <17044@news.duke.edu> jbs@ee.egr.duke.edu (Joe B. Simpson) writes:
>In article <20n4tj\$jq5@cnn.sim.es.com> DVHUNT@130.187.198.34 (DARVEL HUNT)
writes:

>>

>>20m was hot in Utah! There were so many good signals that QRM was the
>>norm! Anybody hear KE7GW?

>

>Yup, 20m was hot. Too hot for QRP phone to cut through the QRO traffic... we
>were running 4A, just under 5 watts and had little luck with either the
>dipole or the delta loop. When I checked out about 0600z, we had only
>made about 20 contacts on 20m. :-(

>

> -joe KD4LLV

Joe left before the real fun began. We could hear lots of stations, mostly 5's and 6's, but our 5 watts couldn't work many. Great signals from LA, ORG and PAC(Hawaii) among others. About 0630Z we let a DX junkie loose on the 20m phone station. This was a guy used to working a KW into a tribander at 105'. He started out calmly enough, but as more and more of those S9 stations ignored him the frustration level soared. By the time he gave up at 0715Z he must have been easy copy

in the parking area 50 yards away through the forest. In his own words: "A megawatt mouth and a milliwatt rig, I can't stand it!"

It was interesting watching the way a DX'er works a station calling CQ. If the DX bug ever bites, I'll know some tricks to try. Screaming at the mike as loud as you can doesn't seem to help much though.

All in all, it was rather boring. We only made 6-8 contacts in a four hour shift. I expected more on my first Field Day.

Greg AC4YT

Date: 29 Jun 93 19:09:50 GMT
From: pacbell.com!rtech!amdahl!JUTS!srl20@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Another Datapoint
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hooray, Hooray, Hooray!!! It FINALLY came. I got my license in the mail yesterday. It only took 7 weeks and 2 days. I took my exam on May 8th and the mailperson graced me with a response from the FCC on June 28th. Not bad I guess. At least it appears to be an average waiting period. I'm not real sure exactly why it takes so long to turn these around. I mean it's not like they do a credit or a background check on everyone who applies. Maybe I just don't understand how difficult it is to figure out what the next call sign should be. Anyway now I can get on the air.

My new call sign is N8ZLK. Sounds kind of nice, but it looks like Area 8 is just about out of 1 X 3 call signs. Does anyone know what the next sequence will be when they run through the balance of the alphabet? Do they start assigning call signs out of the 2 X 3 pool?

Anyway, I'll be on the air soon & hope to talk to some of you. All I need now is a good rig. Any suggestions for a mobile/base 2M/70cm all mode dual bander would be appreciated.

I guess it's off to learn the "code" so I'll be able to try the HF bands too. (oohhh the pain; but you gotta do what you gotta do.)

73

Steve -- N8ZLK -- now I'm a newbie and no longer a wannabe --
It feels good.

Date: 29 Jun 1993 15:18:26 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Any opinions on Icom W21-AT, especially audio?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Nearly all of these microradios have terrible speaker audio. The problem is after you put the display and the keypad on something that small you get room for a speaker about the size of a nickle. It's just not going to work. I have a FT470 with the same problem. A small speaker in the earphone jack shows that it's got plenty of audio power, just a better transducer is needed.

My favorite accessory is the Yaesu MH-19AB mike/earphone. It is a small clip on mike that you place on your collar, it has a push to talk button on the side and then the cord continues up to an earplug. The mike is pretty good, you can leave it on your collar and just push the button. I've even used it with good reports on a bicycle. Of course, you end up looking like a member of the secret service with the earphone and talking into your collar, but it's a small price to pay... :-) I've tested the mike on a couple of different Yaesu's, ICOM's, and Kenwood HT's and it's worked in each one (though oddly the ICOM speaker mike won't key the FT470).

-Ron

Date: 29 Jun 93 20:58:46 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: Field Day '93
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Well I made it through my first Field Day!! What an experience!!

Our club, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society(RARS) operated as W4DW on 80m-70cm (CLASS 9A) and me and some fellow Novice and Technicians operated the Novice/Tech Station under the call KD4WTJ.

To celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Field Day our club had another group of folks under the call N4IQA working Field Day with rigs from the 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, and early 70s. They called themselves the Jurassic Park of Amateur radio. They had some really neat working old rigs!! They also had a mini museum of other rigs from those time frames. It was really fascinating to see some working history of amateur radio.

Here in NC, the band conditions didn't seem too bad...but, I don't really have any other Field Day or Contest experiences to compare it to.

Our Novice/Tech Station consisted of a Yaesu 747GX and two inverted Vs. One was cut for 10 meters and the other was a 80-40-10 multibander that tuned up pretty good in the Novice subbands.

On Saturday we operated 10m Phone mixed in with a few 15m, 40m, and 80m CW contacts. On Sunday we mainly worked 10m because of the much improved conditions and the fact that we were getting tired and our CW copying was marginal (My CW needs lots and lots of work!!!).

On Sunday morning around 1200Z things picked up on 10 meters with lots of 4s, 5s, and 6s coming in strong. We were even able to work LU2NI and we heard a couple of VP2??(Virgin Islands) stations as well as, another Argentina station(LU1BR)!!

Overall I had a great time and my operating skills are much better than when I started out on Saturday at 1800Z. A couple observations from a first timer:

- 1) It seemed that most common courtesy rules that we observe in day to day operations were ignored. We had at least 7-8 CW contacts wiped out by someone calling CQ FD on "my" frequency without asking first to see if the frequency was busy (We only had 10 or so total CW contacts and I personally got frustrated and stopped trying to make any more CW contacts).
- 2) It also seemed to me that the major focus of FD is the contest and not the emergency preparedness function? How does FD prepare us for emergency action? I guess it also depends on the group of people you are working with!

All in all it was a great experience and I am ready to do it again!!

- Warren

73s es cu u nxt yr de kd4yrn

--

Warren E. Lewis
Graphics Division
SAS Institute Inc.
Cary, NC

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(919) 677-8001 x6542
PP-ASEL
KD4YRN DOD#0021

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 1993 16:22:32 GMT

From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!
noc.near.net!squam.banyan.com!banyan.com!dts@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Field Day = Contest Day = ARRL Double-Crosses us Again!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <930627.222523.6h1.rusnews.w165w@garlic.sbs.com>,
tony_p@garlic.uucp.risc.net (Tony Pelliccio) writes:
|> Reply-To: do_i_care@garlic.uucp.risc.net
|> Organization: Antone's Italian Kitchen and Excellence in Operating Net PVD-RI
|> X-Newsreader: rusnews v1.03
|>
|> Some comments about Field Day. It's not what we think it is. How many
|> stations just sat there in their basement or shack operating with a
|> friend or two? How many stations did I hear calling "CQ CONTEST"? Field
|> Day as I've interpreted it, is supposed to test your readiness in case
|> of emergency, to see if you could operate without commercial power
|> sources, or at different locations.
|>
|> But no, the ARRL decides to make it a contest thereby cluttering up the
|> HF bands. I had never heard so many rude and inconsiderate people than
|> on Field Day.

On field day the bands are cluttered. During an actual emergency you might not
get ideal band conditions. If you can learn how to pick through the noise and get
the information the other station is sending, then you will be a MUCH better
operator during an actual emergency when the pressure is on.

For emergency communications on the HF side, contesters are extremely effective.
They train constantly by learning to pull out information from what most would
call 100% noise. I want people who can do this on my emergency team.

Another thing FD teaches is what you forgot to bring, or didn't anticipate
needing. If you realized that you really should have brought a manual tuner or a
spare power supply, and didn't, FD will tell you that. In a real emergency,
knowing ahead of time may save lives.

|>
|> Here's what KD1HZ and I agreed on. Why doesn't the ARRL set aside the
|> bottom 10kc of each sub-band (gen/adv/extra) for normal QSO's and the
|> rest can be the contest garbage. That way hams like myself who really
|> don't like the contests can have a place to carry on normal QSO's. But
|> then, you'd get those hams with Henry 3KW amps and beams.... and we all
|> know where THEY are. :)

Everyone would like everyone else's activities to be somewhere else. Some people
don't like having people who want to carry on "normal" qsos QRM a user of the
band who just happens to be calling CQ Contest on that person's favorite
frequency, and has been running stations for hours.

The bands are there for everyone. Lots of people do like contests. We all have to learn to live with one another.

```
|>
|> If it were a perfect world we wouldn't have to put up with anything. :(
|>
|> -----
|>
|> Tony Pelliccio kd1nr/ae      "Usenet is like a herd of performing elephants
|>  *!*!*!*!*!*!*!*!*!*!*   with diarrhea -- massive, difficult to
|> tony_p@garlic.uucp.risc.net  redirect, awe-inspiring, entertaining, and a
|> -----                  source of mind-boggling amounts of excrement
|>                               when you least expect it."  --spaf (1992)
|>
```

--

```
-----
Daniel Senie                Internet:      dts@banyan.com
Banyan Systems, Inc.        Compuserve:   74176,1347
508-898-1188                Packet Radio: N1JEB@WA1PHY.MA
```

```
-----
Date: 29 Jun 93 19:12:29 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!hellgate.utah.edu!caen!math.ohio-state.edu!darwin.sura.net!
gatech!pitt.edu!dsinc!gvls1!rossi@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Field Day = Contest Day = ARRL Double-Crosses us Again!
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu
```

In article <C9E5HL.348@squam.banyan.com> dts@banyan.com (Daniel Senie) writes:

```
>Everyone would like everyone else's activities to be somewhere else. Some people
>don't like having people who want to carry on "normal" qsos QRM a user of the
>band who just happens to be calling CQ Contest on that person's favorite
>frequency, and has been running stations for hours.
>
>The bands are there for everyone. Lots of people do like contests. We all have
>to learn to live with one another.
```

As soon as some people realize that there is some kind of "operating event" almost every weekend and learn how to deal with it the better off everyone will be.

Take a few minutes each month to READ the "operating events" section of QST and work around the PLANNED ACTIVITY for that weekend instead of just complaining about it.

=====
Pete Rossi - WA3NNA rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM

Paramax Systems Corporation - a Unisys Company
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania
=====

Date: 29 Jun 1993 15:20:52 -0400
From: digex.com!digex.net!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Freq. coordination database software
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

It is time for T-MARC to join the 1980s and get computerized. :)

Does anybody know of a good software application already
in use by another large frequency coordination body
which we could use here?

It would be even better if it is modifiable, either via
source code or configuration files.

Email is preferred. Thanx.

--

bote@access.digex.net (John Boteler)
WARNING: You are subject to pre-emption!

Date: 29 Jun 93 16:42:00 GMT
From: psinntp!psinntp!actcnews!sun1x!rcinet!hsdrpb@RUTGERS.EDU
Subject: Good Band for CW QRP Operation
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hello,

After about twelve years away from CW, and seven years away from
HF in general, I am thinking about getting into CW QRP operation.

I saw the QST review in the July 1993 issue, page 45 on the MFJ 9017
CW QRP transceiver. The article talks about the 18 MHz model.

My question is, Which band 40, 20, 18 MHz or 15 meters would be best?
My CW skills are poor at best. I just down loaded Super Morse from the
ARRL BBS to sharpen my CW skills. I would like to start on the Novice

bands. (my present class is General) But 40 meters has broadcasting stations at night, and 15 meters is dead at night and in the summer.

Does anyone have any experience on 20 QRP or 18 MHZ?

Rick Bonczek
KA1FVC @W1E00.CT.USA
bonczek@hswdl.a1.utc.com
Compuserve: 71543,140

Date: 29 Jun 93 17:43:54 GMT
From: concert!gatech!pitt.edu!hpb.cis.pitt.edu!hpb@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Good Band for CW QRP Operation
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <29JUN199311422691@rcinet> hsdrrpb@rcinet (Richard P. Bonczek) writes:
>Hello,

>
> My question is, Which band 40, 20, 18 MHz or 15 meters would be best?
>My CW skills are poor at best. I just down loaded Super Morse from the
>ARRL BBS to sharpen my CW skills. I would like to start on the Novice
>bands. (my present class is General) But 40 meters has broadcasting
>stations at night, and 15 meters is dead at night and in the summer.

>
> Does anyone have any experience on 20 QRP or 18 MHZ?
>

I'm partial to 20M. There's always lots of DX and stateside stations on the air. During the last CQ Magazine DX contest, I worked about 20 countries in 4 hours of operation with an HW-9. You don't need an elaborate antenna system...I find that an inverted-v up about 30 feet works just fine.

40M is a good choice for QRP operation in the winter when static levels are lower.

73,
Harry Bloomberg WA3TBL
hpb+@pitt.edu

Date: 29 Jun 93 19:31:53 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!caen!malgudi.oar.net!news.ysu.edu!yfn.ysu.edu!
ag821@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Good Band for CW QRP Operation
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In a previous article, hsdrrpb@rcinet (Richard P. Bonczek) says:

>Hello,

>

> After about twelve years away from CW, and seven years away from
>HF in general, I am thinking about getting into CW QRP operation.

>

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>

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>bands. (my present class is General) But 40 meters has broadcasting
>stations at night, and 15 meters is dead at night and in the summer.

>

> Does anyone have any experience on 20 QRP or 18 MHz?

>

>

>

>

>

>

Rick Bonczek
KA1FVC @W1E00.CT.USA
bonczek@hsdwl.a1.utc.com
Compuserve: 71543,140

Hi,

I have just finished building at least one or 2 kits for each of the
20,30,40 meter bands and have spent a great deal of time on each. My 2 picks for
QRP
are 20 and 40. If I had to have only one QRP rig.. it would be for 20.

I find that if I want to rag chew, I can go to the top end of the CW
band, if I want to try for DX, I go to the bottom end.

If you don't want to build, the MFJ is a good little rig, and well
worth the price.

73

Jeff, AC4HF

--

Jeff M. Gold, AC4HF
Manager, Academic Computing Support
Tennessee Technological University

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 1993 19:18:01 GMT
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Good Band for CW QRP Operation
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm kinda partial to 30M. It's usually not too crowded and there's a 200W limit so everyone's on about equal footing...no multi KW heavyweights to contend with. There's not usually as much DX as, say, 20M but it'll surprise you sometimes.

73... Mark AA7TA

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 1993 17:32:17 GMT
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!stevev@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: How do you view a .TAR file
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <Gj5HsAQPBh107h@GRAFex.Cupertino.CA.US>, ka6etb@GRAFex.Cupertino.CA.US (KA6ETB Steve Harding) writes:

> In <9306151259.AA02473@NADC.NADC.NAVY.MIL> skitch@nadc.navy.mil (M. Squicciarini) writes:
> tar files are compressed files, similar to zip or lzh.
>
> If you cannot find a DOS uncompressor, email me and I can send you one
> uuencoded.

Steve, et al.

.TAR files are not compressed, as posted earlier, they are merely archived. Usually the compressed files would have an extension in unix such as .tar.Z to indicate that they are ALSO compressed.

This format comes from early unix systems and was how files were traded between systems via tape. The compression only came LATER.

Steve KA6S

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 1993 19:20:17 GMT
From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!news.dtc.hp.com!srngenprp!alanb@ames.arpa
Subject: Old Hams never die, They just ...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

David Adams (dadams@cray.com) wrote:

: Old Hams never die, They just loose their connection?

: Any better ideas?

Old packet-radio hams never die, they just get slower rise times.

AL N1AL

Date: 29 Jun 93 19:23:40 GMT
From: ogicse!uwm.edu!rpi!rs6301.ecs.rpi.edu!maessm@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Old Hams never die, They just ...
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Jun28.204715.3246@phx.mcd.mot.com>, schuch@phx.mcd.mot.com (John Schuch) writes:

|> In article <1993Jun28.124547.25000@hemlock.cray.com> dadams@cray.com writes:
|> >Old Hams never die, They just loose their connection?
|> Old Hams never die, they're SWR just gets reeeeeeeel high.

Old Hams never die, they just ground themselves.

--

Mat Maessen N2NJZ | maessm@rpi.edu

-----+-----

disclaimer: Anyone NOT singing will have a can of Foster's lobbed at their heads.

(c) 1993 Fake-sig Co., Inc.

Date: 29 Jun 1993 15:13:41 GMT
From: topaz.bds.com!topaz.bds.com!ron@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Where to find beginner's rigs?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'd stear them to older commercially produced stuff. The Heathkits things like the 101 are only of marginal design when built properly, and I've seen some pretty disgusting things in used Heathkits I've owned over the years. Good bargins can be had on older Kenwoods and TenTecs (my mobile rig is a very nice TenTec Triton 3 that I got for \$200 from another person on the net). For about twice that you can start to find the

synthesized
transceivers starting to appear on the used market.

One of the best deals to be had is to find the guy who always must have the latest rig, and arrange to buy his old rigs. Nearly always they are top condition, two year old radios at a decent price. When he switches again, you can unload the rig you got from him the last time for almost exactly what you bought it for. I exploited this for several iterations on 2M equipment.

-Ron

Date: Tue, 29 Jun 93 17:11:44 GMT
From: news.cerf.net!pagesat!olivea!spool.mu.edu!caen!usenet.coe.montana.edu!
netnews.nwnet.net!serval!wsuaix.csc.wsu.edu!i7994779@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <C9CuEs.FJ5@fc.hp.com>, <1993Jun29.012441.6931@serval.net.wsu.edu>,
<1993Jun29.133518.2504@ke4zv.uucp>
Subject : Re: [ANS] Wanted: Simple,Cheap,2m antenna project

In article <1993Jun29.133518.2504@ke4zv.uucp> gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:

>PVC, and most other dielectric materials, absorbs RF, but it's not like
>they are Faraday shields or anything. If you ran a kW to the antenna,
>the PVC might get hot, but at the power levels this antenna was designed
>for, no problem. The absorption we've been talking about is in the range
>of 1% or less.

>

>Gary

>--

>Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
>Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
>534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
>Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

I see so you're not worried about transmitting, but burning up the antenna or something near it. OK, I see now.

=====
Patrick D. Walters Washington State University
i7994779@wsuaix.csc.wsu.edu NW Collegiate Cycling Conference Director
Voice at (unavailable) KB7VPO
=====

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #794
